THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Efforts have been made by Delhi Police to arrest the accused. Search for them was made at various places in Delhi. Police parties were also sent to their native places in Aligarh and Mathura Districts.

Agricultural credit given by banks

1653. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual agricultural credit given by all the public sector banks as a percentage of their total advances in the decade ending March, 1988;

(b) whether Government propose to increase such percentage from the current year onwards as a special case to help farmers to cope up with their drought related problems;

(c) what is the annual public sector bank lending to agricultural sector as a percentage of the value of gross annual agricultural production;

(d) what is the estimated quantum of loans availed annually by the farmers from private money lenders;

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to eliminate such lending; and

(f) how much of the agricultural credit extended by the public sector banks is in the form of crop loans and what is the amount released as gold loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The percentage of Agriculture Credit in the total outstanding advances of public sector banks from the year ending December 1979 to December 1987 is set out below:

December 1979	12.5
December 1980	18.1
December 1981	17.0
December 1982	16.2
December 1983	16.8
December 1984	17.4
December 1985	18.2
December 1986	18.1
December 1987	19.1

(b) The RBI had advised all scheduled commercial banks to improve the share of Direct Agriculture Advances in total bank credit to 15% by the end of March 1985 and to 16% by the end of March 1987. The banks have been further advised to increase the share of Direct Agriculture Advances in total bank credit to 17% by the end of March 1989.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

(f) The present reporting system does not yield information pertaining to gold loans as a part of crop loan separately. However, the data for short term agricultural loans (including crop loans) outstanding in respect of all scheduled commercial banks for 3 year period ended June 1986 are given below:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year ended June	No. of A/cs.	Balance Outstanding
1984	5962699	163758
1985	6317454	196419
1986	7229092	235544